



*Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center (2 miles west of Ashland, WI),
NGLVC*



A Unique Location

The Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center may resemble a lighthouse; in fact it mirrors the individuality and importance of lighthouses throughout northwestern Wisconsin. However, the inner workings reveal a unique partnership and serve as a gateway to the area's heritage, culture and to the public lands around it. Refuge headquarters are co-located with other state and federal partners to best provide the surrounding communities and visitors with quality environmental education and opportunities in the natural world surrounding us. The visitor center and its land border the refuge. Both offer places to explore and discover seven days a week, 52 weeks a year.



*Fishing,
Michigan Travel*



*Bird watching,
NGLVC*



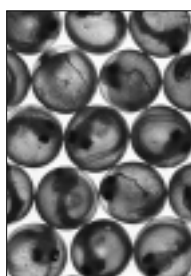
A Working Partnership

While providing for fish and wildlife, Whittlesey Creek NWR invites the public to discover nature and learn how to contribute and be involved in the restoration, monitoring and recovery of fish and wildlife for future generations.



One of the current restoration efforts involving numerous agencies, organizations, private landowners and volunteers is the stocking of coaster brook trout. Coasters are a migratory group of brook trout that were once common in Lake Superior and Whittlesey Creek. Overfishing by early settlers and harsh land use changes nearly depleted coasters around the lake. Currently, remnant and stocked populations exist within the lake and use tributary streams like Whittlesey Creek to spawn each fall.

Staff members, with the help of local, state, and federal partners, are working to bring this beautiful fish back to Whittlesey Creek and the Lake Superior area. Experimental stocking efforts began in August, 2003 when area residents and various partners released 80 adult coaster brook trout into Whittlesey Creek.



Future stocking will consist of placing various age groups, from eggs to adults, in Whittlesey Creek. Restocking efforts will continue through 2009 and the results will be monitored through 2030. *Our hope is that these beautiful fish will once again thrive in Whittlesey Creek and along the south shore of Lake Superior!*

*Photos from top:
Fishery
biologist; Sac
fry; Fish eggs.
USFWS Photos*



D. Hansen